

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
DEC 29 1977
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED **FEB 17 1978**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Straight (Hiram A.) House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

16000 S. Depot Lane

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Park Place

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Oregon

VICINITY OF
CODE
41

COUNTY
Clackamas

CODE
005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lohr

STREET & NUMBER

1206 Washington St.

CITY, TOWN

Oregon City

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon 97045

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clackamas County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Oregon City

STATE

Oregon 97045

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE

May 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Oregon State Parks and Recreation Branch

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon 97310

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hiram A. Straight House in Park Place, Oregon (Section 20, T. 2 S., R. 2 E., W.M.) is an excellent example of vernacular Classic Revival architecture in Oregon. Built c. 1856, the house stands on Straight's original donation land claim.

The house presently consists of a two-story gabled volume with attic fronting to the west with a one-and-a-half story gabled wing on either side of the main volume. Fenestration of the west face of the first floor of the main volume is regular with entry door and transom, and double hung sash windows on either side with original six lights over six. The second story is like the first floor except that no transom is above the door that leads to the porch balcony. The balcony railing is missing, but one railing post has been discovered that will aid in restoring the railing. The fenestration of the west face of the north wing is regular with an entry door with transom and side panel lights and a window to the north. The windows on the rest of the house are also symmetrically placed with most having the original six panes over six. The house has a twelve-inch frieze with capped corners. The solid box construction is sided with clapboards and sits on a foundation of large cut sandstone blocks.

Inside are four rooms on each floor, two in the main volume and one in each wing. At the rear of each wing the original porches have been enclosed with the one in the north wing where the hallway and stairs are located having been converted into a bathroom. A room has been added in the 1940s to the west side of the south wing which the present owners plan to remove. The fireplace opens onto the back parlor of the main volume and appears to have been remodeled in the 1940s. There is a stove chimney remaining on the outside of each wing, but is cut off in the attic. There is evidence of horizontal wainscoting in the two parlors of the main volume and in the kitchen, which is in the south wing. There is a basement under the main volume and the north wing, with the large cut sandstone blocks of the foundation extending to the floor of the basement. Essentially, the house is historically intact.

The middle upstairs window of the front elevation has been removed and is to be replaced with a door. Below it, on the ground story, the french door with transom will be replaced with an accurate opening in the future.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Oregon Trail migration
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1856

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hiram A. Straight House is one of the outstanding examples of vernacular Classic Revival architecture remaining in Oregon. Hiram A. Straight, the owner, was an important figure in the early history of Oregon. He helped in 1843 establish part of the Oregon Trail between Fort Hall and Walla Walla. He served in the legislature of both the Provisional and Territorial governments of Oregon.

Hiram A. Straight was born in 1814 in Washington County, New York, and settled in Illinois in 1837 where he married Susan Lasswell. In 1843 he sold his farm and joined the "Great Migration" of 1843, heading for Oregon out of Westport, Missouri. When they were told that it was impossible to take their wagons beyond Fort Hall, Straight helped to construct the wagon road for the Oregon Trail between Ft. Hall and Walla Walla. * In March, 1844, Straight took out a 600-acre government land claim next to Oregon City and received a Donation Land Claim for it when Oregon became US Territory in 1849. He was elected to the second legislature of the Oregon Provisional Government in 1845 and was re-elected in 1846. He was foreman of the petit jury that convicted the Indians who took part in the Whitman massacre of 1847. In 1856, he was elected a representative to the legislature of the Oregon Territorial Government. He farmed his land until the 1890s and died in 1897.

Very little documentation is available concerning the house. A repair job in the basement has scratched in the cement the words *Johnson, Dement, and 1867*. County deeds records show that Straight sold two parcels of land for \$9,000 in 1854 and other land in 1855 and 1856. It is assumed that with this money Straight's house was built at about the same time (1856) that several other large houses that were built near this house.

The Straight House is one of the few examples of Classic Revival houses with wings to either side of the main volume that remains standing in Oregon. The only other known example of this type is the Sam Brown House in Gervais, built in 1859. The Straight House is a bit larger and has the hallway and stairs in the north wing of the house.

*Walla Walla, first known as Wailatpu, was the site of the mission established by Marcus Whitman in 1836 for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. As did the Methodist Mission at The Dalles, further to the West, Whitman's mission became a place of rest and refuge for Oregon Trail immigrants. Fort Hall, on the Snake River to the East, was another important outpost on the Trail.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hines, Rev. H.V. An Illustrated History of the State of Oregon, The Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago. 1893.

Lynch, Vera. Free Land for Free Men, Artline Printing, Portland. 1973.

Corning, Howard. Dictionary of Oregon History, Binfords Pub., Portland. 1956.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .4106 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,0 | 5,3,27,0,0 | 5,02,44,5,0 |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of Lot 4 and all of Lot 3 except a small triangular portion in the northwest corner, Block 1, Straight's Addition to Park Place, Oregon.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jeff Lohr, Chairman, Historical House Committee

ORGANIZATION

Clackamas County Historical Society

DATE

July 30, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

1206 Washington Street

TELEPHONE

656-7679

CITY OR TOWN

Oregon City

STATE

Oregon 97045

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE December 22, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 2/17/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

MEMBER ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE 2-7-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER